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(54) **VEHICLE LAUNCH ASSEMBLY FOR UNDERWATER PLATFORMS**

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(58) **Field of Search** **114/319, 238; 89/1.809, 1.81; 124/69**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A vehicle launch assembly for underwater platforms includes a water tank mounted on the platform, and a plunger movably disposed in the tank and dividing the tank into first and second zones, the first zone being in communication with a water environment in which the platform is disposed, and the second zone being in communication with a launch tube inlet line mounted on the platform. An actuator is connected to the plunger and is operable to move the plunger in the tank. A triggering device initiates operation of the actuator, moving the plunger in the tank to push water from the tank second zone to the launch tube inlet line to eject a vehicle from the launch tube, or moving the plunger to enlarge the tank second zone to draw water thereinto from a valve in communication with the water environment and the tank.

15 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

